

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BEIRUT 01972 031231Z

42

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W  
----- 103726

R 031141Z MAR 76  
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8842  
INFO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 1972

EXDIS

E.O. 11652 XGDS-2  
TAGS: ASEC, PINS, PINT, LE  
SUBJ: RELEASE OF GALLAHGER AND DYKES

REF: STATE 46180

1. IN COMPANY OF ACTING DCM WARING, I PASSED TO PREMIER KARAME ON MARCH 2 SECRETARY'S PERSONAL THANKS PER REFTEL. I ALSO ASKED HIM TO THANK ON OUR BEHALF OTHERS WHO ASSISTED HIM IN HIS EFFORTS, FOR EXAPMLE YASIR ARAFAT AND ABU HASSAN. HE WAS PLEASED AND SAID HE WOULD PASS THESE THANKS ON, AS HE HAD ON A PREVIOUS OCCASION IN THE CASE OF COL. MORGAN'S RELEASE.

2. KARAME SAID THAT THROUGHOUT THESE MONTHS ARAFAT HAD BEEN MOST IMPORTANT AND COOPERATIVE IN THIS CASE. HIS CONTACTS WITH ARAFAT HAD CONVINCED HIM THAT THE MEN WERE BEING KEPT ALIVE AND IN GOOD SHAPE. IN FACT THEY HAD BECOME A BURDEN ON THE PFLP TOWARDS THE END AND PFLP HAD BEEN LOOKING FOR A WAY TO GET RID OF THEM. HE HAD NOTICED, KARAME SAID THAT I HAD DEMONSTRATED SOME DOUBTS ON THE SCORE LAST TIME I HAD COME TO SEE HIM. I REPLIED THAT THROUGHOUT THIS PERIOD WE HAD LACKED ASSURANCES FROM ANYBODY TELLING US HE HAD ACTUALLY SEEN THE MEN ALIVE. ALL'S WELL THAT ENDS WELL, AND I JUST HOPED THAT HABASH'S PEOPLE HAD LEARNED FROM THEIR MISTAKE.

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PAGE 02 BEIRUT 01972 031231Z

3. I ADDED THAT I WAS PLANNING TO VISIT JUMBLATT TO THANK

HIM FOR HIS PART. KARAME AGREED. HE SAID GOD WILLING  
SUCH A THING WOULD NOT RECUR, BUT IT WAS GOOD TO THANK  
EVERYONE IN CASE IT SHOULD.

4. KARAME MADE POINT THAT ABSENCE OF PUBLICITY RE THE MEN HAD  
BEEN IMPORTANT, SINCE PUBLICITY MIGHT HAVE LED TO A VERY  
BAD OUTCOME.

5. IN RESPONSE TO ANOTHER GAMBIT KARAME CONFIRMED  
THAT ARMS DEAL FOR THE MEN HAD NOT GONE THROUGH AND  
SAID THERE HAD BEEN NO OTHER RANSOM DEMANDS MADE OR MET.

6. CONVERSATION TEN TURNED TO POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC  
SUBJECTS REPORTED SEPARATELY.

7. COMMENT: AT LEAST KARAME WAS DEMONSTRATING NO  
ILLUSIONS ABOUT GOL'S ABILITY TO GUARANTEE SAFETY OF DIPLO-  
MATS FROM KIDNAPPING. BY SAME TOKEN HE DID NOT MAKE  
ANY EXTRAVAGANT CLAIMS AS TO HIS OWN ROLE IN OBTAINING  
MEN'S RELEASE.  
LAMBRAKIS

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**TAGS:** ASEC, PINS, PINT, LE, US, (GALLAGHER, CHARLES), (DYKES, WILLIAM), (KARAME, RASHID)  
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